

2-27-2017

## Current, February 27, 2017

University of Missouri-St. Louis

Follow this and additional works at: <http://irl.umsl.edu/current2010s>

---

### Recommended Citation

University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, February 27, 2017" (2017). *Current (2010s)*. 255.  
<http://irl.umsl.edu/current2010s/255>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspapers at IRL @ UMSL. It has been accepted for inclusion in Current (2010s) by an authorized administrator of IRL @ UMSL. For more information, please contact [marvinh@umsl.edu](mailto:marvinh@umsl.edu).

### Governor Greitens Makes New Selections For Board of Curators



New appointees to UM Board of Curators (left to right): Darryl Chatman, Jamie Farmer, and Jeff Layman.

**KAT RIDDLER**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri System Board of Curators has three new nominations for vacancies left unfilled last year, after the State Senate would not confirm the nominations made under former Governor Jay Nixon. Governor Eric Greitens rejected Nixon's nominations and made his new ones on February 15. The new nominees are Darryl Chatman, Jeff Layman, and Jamie Farmer.

Governor Greitens released the following statement: "We have the potential to make Missouri's higher

education system a national model. Our state has excellent students, talented teachers, and a people committed to education. There are also many areas where higher education can be improved. We can encourage more intellectual diversity and become the best state in the country at preparing students for rewarding careers. These curators bring knowledge and real world experience to the table. They will be important voices for our students and families."

Chatman is an attorney and former deputy director of Missouri's Department of Agriculture. He received a BS and MS in animal

science at the University of Missouri—Columbia where he was also a linebacker for the football team. He has an MPA in public administration from North Carolina State University, an MS in agriculture economics from Mizzou, and a JD from Mizzou.

Layman is the senior vice president at Morgan Stanley in Springfield, Missouri, and earned his bachelor's in business administration and management from Missouri State University. He also studied business at Mizzou.

Farmer is the president of Farmer Holding Co. She received her

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### University Hopes to Increase Enrollment Yield After Seeing Decreasing Enrollment

**LORI DRESNER**  
NEWS EDITOR

DECLINING ENROLLMENT trends have continued into the spring 2017 semester at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. The university saw a 7.2 percent decrease in on-campus enrollment from fall to spring and a 4.1 percent decrease in total enrollment from last spring to this spring. For the first time in five years, however, the university saw a slight increase of 3.8 percent in new freshmen from last spring.

Alan Byrd, dean of enrollment, said that enrollment is down slightly more than expected this semester. "We expected to be down around 6 percent since we were down 6 percent in the fall, so if we had our normal attrition and a normal number of

new students, we would stay about the same, but we were slightly down this spring," he said, noting that some of the decline can be attributed to the recent graduating class.

He said that the focus this spring is figuring out how to improve the enrollment yield at the university for the upcoming fall semester, and the university has set a goal to increase enrollment by roughly 1 percent for the fall semester.

"Right now it's looking like we're going to have a record number of freshmen applications from high school students for the second year in a row, so the key there is if they'll actually enroll. ... We had a record number last year and we had a very low enrollment yield. So we won't be satisfied with those numbers until they actually matriculate

and come to fruition," said Byrd, who added that campus tours have increased by five percent.

He explained that transfer numbers are down slightly this year, as the university's top feeder school, St. Louis Community College, has also seen decreased enrollment numbers.

"We're putting most of our hope this year in ... the graduate school doing well and attracting more international students and students from outside of the state," said Byrd. According to the Spring 2017 Enrollment Report, the university aims to enroll 2,150 new undergraduates and 825 new graduate and professional students and increase total enrollment to 17,200 students in the upcoming fall semester.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### Trayvon Martin's Mother Sybrina Fulton Speaks to UMSL

**JANECE WOODSON**  
STAFF WRITER

ON FEBRUARY 26, 2012, an unarmed 17-year-old African American named Trayvon Martin was fatally shot by a 28-year-old volunteer neighborhood watchman, just 75 feet from the safety of the Sanford, Florida townhome in which he was staying. Much attention has since been given to the ensuing trial and the political ideologies of the shooter, and the event sparked millions of responses on social media, both in dissent and in support of the proceedings.

Five years later, several organizations at the University of Missouri—St. Louis felt that the community could benefit from a representative voice for the victim, a voice that transcends the circumstances of his death. The Office of Student Involvement and the Associated Black Collegians (ABC) hosted a presentation by Martin's mother on Wednesday in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Brandi Fields, senior, nursing, and president of ABC, remarked, "Despite the intense struggle of losing a child, Fulton has become a role model to many by turning her grief into advocacy."

Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin and Jahvaris Fulton, focused upon the happiness Trayvon brought to her life as a child and young man. Fulton recalled that her son was steadfast in his affection, even as he got older. "It didn't matter if he was in the grocery store, he was at the park, or he was at the school; if he wanted a hug and a kiss, he got a hug and a kiss," she said.

The audience chuckled along as Fulton remembered her son's excitement about getting older, growing a sparse beard, and being noticed by girls. Fulton recalled that Martin would make soup for her when she was sick, was always playful with his cousins, and was quick to help people with things they could not do themselves. Fulton told the audience that her son's character, corroborated by many who knew him, does not fit the narrative that he was a 'thug,' as some media outlets presented him. She said, "If me saying my son's name—Trayvon Martin—and what happened to my son makes you uncomfortable, then I



Sybrina Fulton addresses the audience.

guess you'll be uncomfortable."

Many of Trayvon Martin's happiest moments in life are recorded in a book titled "Rest in Power," co-authored by Fulton and Martin's father, Tracy Martin. According to Fulton, the book also discusses the failures of the American legal system to procure justice for people who are prey to common racial and linguistic stereotypes. "Trayvon was not on trial, which a lot of people don't understand," Fulton said. She also discussed her dissatisfaction with the treatment of Rachel Jeantel, a friend of Martin's who spoke to him on the phone seconds before his death. Jeantel's Haitian Creole and variation of English led prosecutors to largely discount her statements. Fulton expressed her disappointment that the court lessened the credibility of Jeantel because she came from a linguistic background unfamiliar to many of the jurors. Although translators are typically brought into court for cases that involve people speaking languages other than standardized American English, the court made no accommodations for Jeantel, despite alleged language barriers.

"What people wanted us to do was just to go back home and be quiet. They didn't want us to speak out on behalf of Trayvon," Fulton said. She continued to praise social media as a medium for the victims of senseless shootings to be kept alive, and as a platform for support.

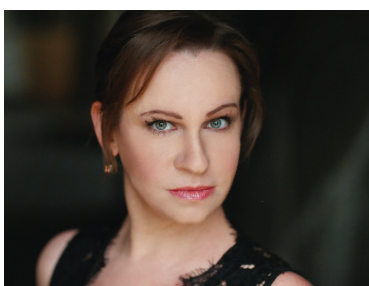
Fulton recalled feeling heartened as thousands of teenagers posted pictures of themselves wearing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

### What's Inside:



Golf, pg. 4



Kelli Allen Poetry, pg. 5



Hack-A-Thon pg. 7



March 7 Primary, pg. 8



## CURRENT STAFF

## EDITORIAL

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Kat Riddler  
**Managing Editor**  
Lori Dresner  
**News Editor**  
Lori Dresner  
**Features Editor**  
Leah Jones  
**Sports Editor**  
Lance Jordan  
**A&E Editor**  
Daniel Stawhun  
**Opinions Editor**  
Nathan Watson  
**Copy Editor**  
Zachary Lee  
**Staff Writers**  
Danyel Poindexter  
Chris Zuver  
Janece Woodson

**Staff Photographer**  
Janece Woodson

## DESIGN

**Design Editor**  
Giuseppe Vitellaro  
**Photo Editor**  
OPEN  
**Web Editor**  
Leah Jones  
**Multimedia Editor**  
Aleeah Harden  
**Cartoonist/Artists**  
Rita Cloutier  
Amanda Royer  
Mike Diliberto

## BUSINESS

**Business Manager**  
Jasmine Walker  
**Advertising Director**  
Michael Plumb  
**Ad Representative**  
OPEN  
**Distribution Manager**  
Jessie Eikmann  
**Social Media Director**  
Victoria Bauer  
**Archivist**  
Zachary Lee

## CONTACT US

388 MSC, 1 University Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400  
thecurrent@umsl.edu  
thecurrent-online.com  
Newsroom  
314-516-5174  
thecurrenttips@umsl.edu  
Business/Advertising  
314-516-5316  
thecurrentads@umsl.edu  
Fax  
314-516-6811  
Editor-in-Chief  
thecurrenteic@umsl.edu  
Internships and Volunteer Positions  
thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu  
Letters to the Editor  
thecurrenteic@umsl.edu  
Twitter  
@UMSLTheCurrent  
Facebook  
/TheCurrentStudentNews



ON THE QUAD BY MIKE DILIBERTO

## WANT A JOB ON CAMPUS?

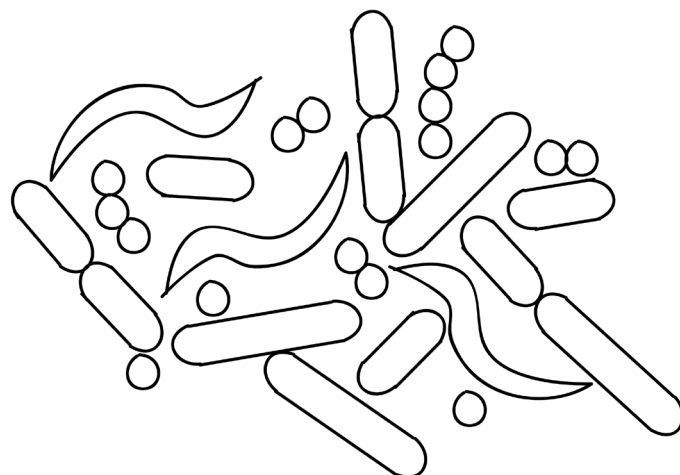
CAMPUS LIFE IS HIRING!

APPLICATIONS DUE WEDNESDAY! (MARCH 1)

TO VIEW POSITIONS & APPLY VISIT [CAMPUSLIFEJOBS.UMSL.EDU](http://CAMPUSLIFEJOBS.UMSL.EDU)

# Math Problem of the Week

A bacteria population doubles every day. If it takes 100 days to achieve its full population, in how many days will it reach half its final population?



Email guesses and responses to [covert dj@umsl.edu](mailto:covert dj@umsl.edu).

## Office of Student Involvement Column

WELCOME TO the weekly Office of Student Involvement column! Each week, the OSI will provide info here about upcoming programs and events, as well as important announcements for involved students. Be sure to return each week to stay in the know on OSI.

Join us for our Alternative Spring Break from March 27 to 31 in Indianapolis, Indiana. We are excited to take a group of students to Indianapolis to serve and see the sights! A \$25 refundable deposit to the OSI completes your application. Selected applicants will pay the \$175 for the trip, and those who are not selected will be refunded. Applications are being accepted through

February 28. Learn more at <https://orgsync.com/59704/forms/238195>.

Come join the OSI and the Emerging Leaders this week for a workshop on the intersection of diversity and leadership. As leaders, you want to recognize the strength of others and think well for a group as various factors of diversity play a huge role. The Diversity Awareness Partnership Group from the St. Louis area will lead this workshop and teach individuals how to incorporate leadership practices through the lens of diversity. To RSVP, visit <https://orgsync.com/139019/events/1623533/occurrences/3774373>.

Demystifying the Divine 9 is happening on February 27 at 6 p.m.

in the Millennium Student Center Pilot House. Join UMSL Fraternity & Sorority Life to learn the history behind Divine 9 organizations and to have an open panel discussion with peers.

Do you have an interest in facilitating change on campus? Do you want to assist in governing the student body? File your candidacy to run for Student Government Association Senator or Executive Officer positions! The filing deadline is March 3 at 5 p.m. All required forms can be found in the SGA Portal on TritonSync.

The Office of Student Involvement can be contacted at 314-516-5291 or [studentinvolvement@umsl.edu](mailto:studentinvolvement@umsl.edu).



# HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

- Get even More News and Content online at [thecurrent-online.com](http://thecurrent-online.com)
- Send Story Tips to [thecurrenttips@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrenttips@umsl.edu)
- Respond to stories with Letters to the Editor
- Volunteer, Intern, or Work for the Paper
- Be Featured or Feature an Undercurrent
- Like us on Fb [/TheCurrentStudentNews](https://www.facebook.com/TheCurrentStudentNews)
- Follow us on Twitter [@UMSLTheCurrent](https://twitter.com/UMSLTheCurrent)

MON 61  
50

TUE 73  
54

WED 58  
39

THU 60  
40

FRI 62  
42

SAT 59  
43

SUN 57  
42



# CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

LORI DRESNER  
NEWS EDITOR

THE FOLLOWING is a series of daily crime and incident reports issued by the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between February 15 and February 21.

**February 15:** At 9:30 a.m. an UMSL student and a nonstudent were arrested after being involved in an altercation at Oak Hall. At 9:58 a.m. an UMSL student was treated for an illness and released by paramedics at the Research Building.

**February 16:** At 12:22 a.m. a fuel credit card found at the Social Sciences & Business Building (SSB) was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping.

**February 17:** A delayed report was taken by UMSL PD regarding an UMSL staff member who reported developing a reaction to an insect bite that they received on February 16; the individual was sent to Concentra to receive treatment. At 10:39 a.m. an UMSL student reported that their wallet had been stolen at the Thomas Jefferson Library.

**February 18:** No incidents were reported on this date.

**February 19:** At 12:49 a.m. UMSL PD responded to a peace disturbance call at University Meadows regarding a loud party; the par-

ty disbanded without incident. At 2:18 a.m. UMSL PD found damaged ceiling tiles that were caused by a water backup at Woods Hall; Facilities Management responded to the incident.

**February 20:** At 9:05 a.m. a laptop found at the TJ Library was turned in to UMSL PD and was later retrieved by the owner. At 11:30 a.m. two vehicles were involved in an incident in the West Drive Garage; there was minor damage and no injuries. At 6:59 p.m. two more vehicles were involved in an accident on West Drive; there was minor damage and no injuries.

**February 21:** At 1:07 a.m. a backpack found at SSB was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 2:37 p.m. an UMSL student reported that they had lost a pair of eyeglasses at Express Scripts Hall. At 3:22 p.m. a set of keys found at the TJ Library was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 8:30 p.m. an UMSL student was transported from the Recreation and Wellness Center to the hospital after falling. At 8:35 p.m. an UMSL faculty member at the Nursing Administration Building reported that a former acquaintance was harassing them.

## Spring Enrollment Down, Fall Campus Tours and Applications Up

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other goals of the spring enrollment report include maintaining an academic profile that includes an ACT score of 24 and a 3.3 GPA for first-time freshmen, increasing the average GPA to 3.0 for incoming transfer students, increasing the percentage of underrepresented minorities enrolled to 30 percent, and increasing the percentage of incoming international students to 5 percent.

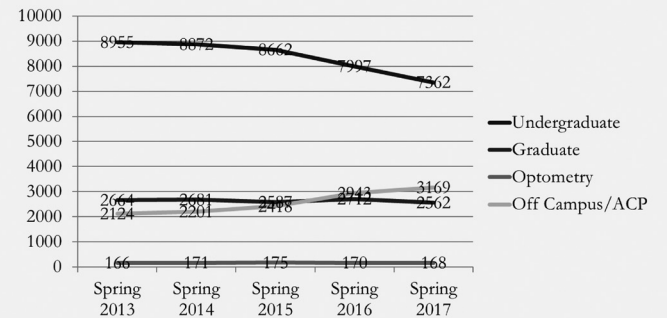
Byrd said that the issue of declining enrollment is not specific to UMSL, but has been problematic for most colleges and universities in the region. "All of the schools in the region have declining enrollment because the population isn't growing any ... it's a demographic thing," he said.

The university is expecting about 1,200 prospective students for the upcoming UMSL Day in March, according to Byrd.

"We pretty much are at capacity for UMSL Day in terms of size ... we were [at capacity] the last UMSL Day, and we're on pace to do it again," he said.

The newly expanded Metropolitan Rate Program, which gives all Illinois residents in-state tuition rates, was one recent effort to bring more students to UMSL. The university is hoping that the expansion will bring in approximately 100

### 5-Year Enrollment Trends



### Expanded the Metro Rate Program

- Metropolitan Rate has been expanded to all of Illinois
- Offer in-state rates beyond these 22 counties
  - Adams, Bond, Calhoun, Christian, Clinton, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Pike, Randolph, Sangamon, Scott, St. Clair, Washington, & Williamson
- Makes UMSL more competitive for students in Southern and Central Illinois
- Metro Rate students generated \$4.6 million in tuition revenue in 2015-2016



COURTESY OF ALAN BYRD

### Graphs from the Spring 2017 Enrollment Report.

new students. Students in the Metro Rate Program generated \$4.6 million in tuition revenue in 2015-2016, according to the enrollment report.

The university has also expanded recruitment efforts to Midwest Exchange Program (MSEP) states, which include Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Students from those states pay 150 percent of the university's in-state tuition instead of out-of-state rates, according to the enrollment report. UMSL began visiting high schools and community colleges in

those states this semester.

Two new scholarships were also created in another effort to step up recruitment efforts. The Oak Hall Community Scholarship is a \$3,500 merit scholarship awarded to students who have a 25 ACT score or 3.5 GPA who live over 30 miles from campus. The Regional Achievement Award is given to nonresident students who have a 24 ACT score and 3.5 GPA and come from MSEP states and bordering states of Arkansas, Iowa, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

## New Nominees For Board of Curators

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

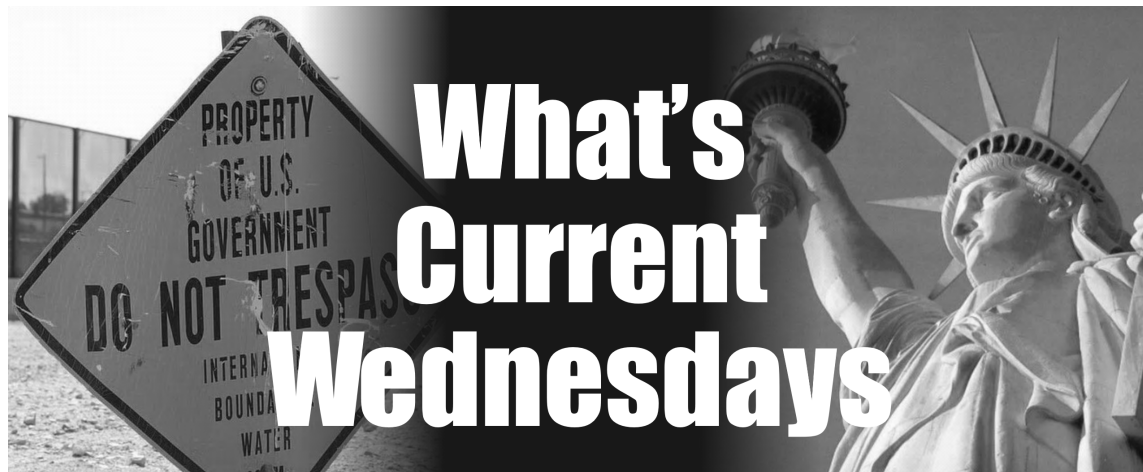
MBA from Washington University in St. Louis and an undergraduate degree in marketing, finance, and real estate from Mizzou.

Greitens rejected Nixon's nominations of Jon Sundvold and student representative Patrick Graham from Mizzou. The student representative rotates between the four campuses in the system. Two other appointments by Nixon, Tom Voss and Mary Nelson, resigned in January, leaving two additional seats on the board vacant.

The last Board of Curators meetings were February 9 and 10 on the Mizzou campus. Of Governor Greitens' \$159 million cut to higher edu-

cation, \$40 million directly impacts the operating budgets for the UM System. The Board of Curators voted at the meeting to raise room and board fees in order to make up for the budget cuts.

The University of Missouri-St. Louis proposed at this meeting a lower, set price for undergraduate students from Illinois which will start in fiscal year 2018 and will be re-evaluated in five years to attempt to make up for the loss of funding. After five years, the Board of Curators can renew the rate for another five years or eliminate the rate. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27 and 28 at the Missouri S&T campus.



## Immigration and Resettlement: What we know and what we think we know.

**Wednesday, March 1, 2017 Starting At 2:00 PM**  
**MSC Century Room C For Cookies and Conversation\***

Join *The Current* and discussion leader Adriano Udani, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, for a lively, studentcentered discussion. Presidents' executive actions on immigration at the national level have an impact on states as well as local communities. So, how will states and communities respond? We will answer these questions by exploring first our own beliefs about immigrants and refugees and then understand what kinds of information we are motivated to seek to understand state and local policy decisions.

The *New York Times* feature that will serve as the jumping off point for the conversation is "What's Next for Trump's Travel Ban? Justice Dept. and States Weigh Options" which can be found at:

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/02/13/us/politics/trumptravelbancourts.html>

"What's Current Wednesdays" is a monthly forum for faculty and student discussions about current events, co sponsored by The Current and the New York times, with support from Community Outreach & Engagement at UMSL.

# The Current

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1966

For more information, visit *The Current* website at [www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com).  
\* Cookies/dessert and beverages provided to the first 25 students.

# WHAT'S NEW in THE CURRENT

Check it out! | [thecurrent-online.com](http://thecurrent-online.com)



# 4 UMSL Men's Golf Team Places Fifth in Newberry Invitational



COURTESY OF UMSL ATHLETICS

Julien de Poyen was UMSL's top scorer at the Newberry Invitational. The men's team is ranked sixth in the division.

**LANCE JORDAN**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Missouri–St. Louis men's golf team concluded the fall season at the Golfweek Division II Fall Invitational. The team claimed sixth place in an 18-team field at the Horseshoe Bay Resort in Austin, Texas.

UMSL men's golf team returned February 20 and 21 to compete in the Newberry Invitational. The team came in fifth place in a 16-team field at the Ocean Course at Kiawah in Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

At the end of one round, UMSL sat in first place with a 1-stroke lead on February 20. UMSL left the first day with a score of 292. Newberry College and Clayton State tied at second place with a score of 293 each, South Carolina–Aiken finished fourth with a score of 295, and Mars Hill rounded out the top five

with a score of 298.

The second round that day was delayed until the next day due to darkness. Julien de Poyen, senior, international business, was the team's top finisher of day one with a total score of 70.

UMSL fell into fifth place on February 21 to close out the Newberry College Invitational.

UMSL's final score for the invitational was 901. The hosting Newberry College would go on to claim the victory with a score of 873. Clayton secured second place with a score of 888, Lenior-Rhyne College finished third with a score of 898, and South Carolina–Aiken remained in fourth place with a score of 899.

The men's golf team, ranked sixth in the division, prepares to have just as an impressive season as they did during the fall, when they secured three first place wins at the Arch Cup, Midwest Regional, and

Lindenwood Invitational. The team also placed second in the Midwest Regional to help in improving their overall ranking.

The team's next challenge during the spring semester will be the Las Vegas Desert Classic in Las Vegas, Nevada, on March 5 and 6.

On April 26 the men's and women's golf programs will host their third annual Friends of UMSL Golf Classic at the Glen Echo Country Club. Registration is \$150 per player and includes lunch, beer/soft drinks on the course, green fees, range, cart, and tee gift. The event is a 4-person scramble format with an UMSL player in each group. All proceeds will benefit the UMSL men's and women's golf programs.

To register or for any additional questions, contact Director of Golf Operations Troy Halterman at [troyhalt@gmail.com](mailto:troyhalt@gmail.com) or 913-290-0710.

## UMSL Athletics Seeks Interns

**LANCE JORDAN**  
SPORTS EDITOR

AN EXCITING opportunity is available for University of Missouri–St. Louis students looking for an internship. The UMSL Athletic department is looking to fill five internship positions within the department.

"It's open to anyone seriously interested in learning how athletic departments function. I would say these positions mostly relate to business, communications, or media studies majors. But we welcome anyone," said Daniel Brodsky, coordinator of external affairs.

The job post states that the department is looking for two event management interns, two media relations interns, and a marketing and promotions intern with duties and responsibilities overlapping between positions.

As an event management intern, students can expect to assist in coordinating game operations for all university athletic events, facility set-up and tear-down for UMSL athletic events and outside rentals, stocking and running concession stands, tracking and selling tickets, operating the scoreboard and music, supervising event staff on game

days, reconciling cash and check receipts, and making the corresponding deposits for ticket, concession sales, and facility rental payments.

As a media relations intern, students will assist in managing UMSL Athletics' online presence on various platforms, aid in collecting and recording live statistical information, assist with broadcast production and team filming at athletic events, provide creative input on graphic design and video projects relating to special promotions and marketing materials, and assist with in-game photography at athletic events.

As a marketing and promotions intern, students will assist with the development and implementation of sport-specific marketing plans, promotional schedules and events, and on-field presentations and contest marketing efforts on campus; distribute flyers; attend promotional activities; set up advertising and placement on game-day; and assist with the production of game-day scripts for PA and broadcast announcers.

"They're still open for the spring and open year-round," Brodsky said. "It lasts as long as [the student] wants to be a part of our department. The only thing we

ask is people who work in our department are committed because events are on weekends and at night. They're at times that aren't necessarily convenient."

Brodsky found success in his own internships when he was a student at Ball State University, interning for the Cincinnati Reds, the Indiana Pacers, Lindenwood Athletics, and Parkway North High School.

Brodsky and the athletic department wants to sell the experience that comes from the internship to students who may be thinking of careers in the field.

"They'll be very hands on. It'll be a good opportunity for them to see how our department operates and the sports industry. It's important to not only have good grades, a degree, etc., but to have experience. Here at our department, they'll get that experience," Brodsky says.

For full consideration, please submit your resume, cover letter, and professional references to Dan Brodsky at [brodskyd@umsl.edu](mailto:brodskyd@umsl.edu).

For more information on qualifications, work hours, duties, or other exciting opportunities on campus, visit MyGateway. Log in and click on the students tab, and scroll down to student job listings.

# UMSL Basketball Moves Towards GLVC



COURTESY OF UMSL ATHLETICS

Kevin Swanson goes for the lay-up in their game versus Maryville.

**LANCE JORDAN**  
SPORTS EDITOR

WITH THE Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament spots on the line, the University of Missouri–St. Louis men's and women's basketball teams came out in full force against the Maryville Saints on February 23 in the Mark Twain Athletic and Fitness Center.

The Tritons put away the Saints by 34 points, while the Triton men put away the Saints by 20 points.

The women's matchup started the night. The first half saw the Saints draw a foul early on Jordan Fletcher, junior, business marketing, who scored both free throws. From there Sydney Bloch, senior, business and criminology, would secure a layup, holding a 4-point lead before the Saints could come back with their own 3-pointer. The Tritons continued to push the Saints, finishing the quarter with 14 points, while the Saints finished with nine points. Early in the second quarter, Robneisha Lee, senior, liberal studies, took on a leadership role, scoring one of her two free throws and assisting Fletcher and Laura Szorenyi, sophomore, communications, who both put up points for the team. The Tritons continued to put on a show on the court, extending their lead by 13 points. Ending the second quarter, the score stood at 32–19.

Fletcher and Lee continued the charge into the third quarter with Fletcher putting up a layup and Lee securing a 3-pointer. The Tritons continued to tally up the points, due in large part to eight free throws the team secured off fouls. With three minutes left in the quarter, the Tritons continued to hold a 20+ game lead, as the Saints attempted to find a way back into the matchup. At the end of the third quarter, however, it was a 27-point lead for the Tritons, the quarter ending 60–33.

In the fourth quarter, the Tritons repeated their performance, starting off strong. Samie Sproul, junior, business, put away a 3-pointer with Shawnta Johnson, junior, communications, following a minute later with a layup. For the remainder of the game, the Saints could not close the 30-point deficit. Continuous strong shooting from the Tritons led them to a 34-point victory, the final

score 79–35.

This was Fletcher's eighth 20-plus scoring game of the season and fourth double-double. Fletcher also grabbed 11 rebounds and three blocks, which gave her 99 blocks for her career, needing only one more to become the third player in the program's history to make 100 blocks.

Lee also put up an impressive 12 points, six rebounds, and six assists. Chelsey Jacox, graduate, social work, also tied Lee with 12 points. Johnson pulled down 11 rebounds.

As of Thursday night the lady Tritons hold the record of 15–11, 10–8 GLVC.

The Triton men took the court next, looking to punish the Saints early in the first half as well. Elijah Watson, junior, accounting, started the party early with a 3-pointer, followed by a layup from DJ White, junior, physical education. It didn't stop there, however; Dre Holmes, senior, business management, scored a 3-pointer and a layup, giving the team an 8-point lead four minutes into the matchup. Great shooting by the team allowed the Tritons to acquire a 21-point lead over the Saints, as the first half finished with Tritons on top 42–21.

In the second half, the Saints got more competitive with the Tritons, as the team actually outscored the Tritons by 27 points, while the Tritons put up 26. However, the Saints only finished with 48 points, while the Tritons finished with 68.

Steven Davis, junior, business management, scored the most for the Tritons, knocking down 12 points. Davis put away four 3-pointers, tying for second place on the program's single season charts with 84, only five points shy of the record.

Hunter Reine, senior, criminal justice, tallied up nine points with eight rebounds, while Kevin Swanson, senior, liberal studies, and Watson had eight points apiece.

As of Thursday night, the Triton men hold the record of 11–17, 5–13 GLVC.

On February 26 in the Mark Twain Building the Triton women's basketball team played the first round of the GLVC tournament against Saint Joseph. The Triton men's basketball team traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana in the first round GLVC tournament matchup.



# 'Injustice 2': A Dead Hype or A Waiting Surprise

DANYEL POINDEXTER  
STAFF WRITER

"INJUSTICE 2" will not be released until May 16, but somehow the game is still causing quite a buzz in the gaming community. "Injustice 2" surrounds the infamous Justice League in another universe. The game—developed by NetherRealm Studios and published by Warner Bros—is the sequel to "Injustice: Gods Among Us," released back in November 2013. The initial game followed a storyline of two universes in which the Justice League exists, but in one, Joker successfully tricks Superman with gas, making him think that his pregnant wife, Louis, was Doomsday (a known villain in the DC Universe). The event causes Superman to kill his wife, and that, in turn, causes him to go into a downward spiral of darkness. In the first universe, this same event happens, but Batman arrives in time to stop Joker from completing his ploy to deceive Superman; thus, he never becomes evil, or "dark." The Batman in the second universe, in desperate need of help, goes to the

first universe to request aid from the other Batman.

So far, the "Injustice 2" storyline seems to build around Batman and his allies working toward a common goal to put the pieces of society back together and, of course, struggling with it. In the midst of it all, a new threat, Brainiac, appears. The story is still a little unclear to some people. Many speculate that dark Superman either escapes—or is released—and is once again out for blood. It also seems to some that Batman is beginning to condone villainous actions, turning a blind eye. While the storyline of this series is up for debate, the real mystery lies in the gaming graphics and structure. The beta, released late January, became available to those who had the chance to register. Though it is now closed, most of the gaming community has had an opportunity to experience or at least witness the actual gameplay.

The introduction of all-new characters, like Black Canary and Swamp Thing, means a bigger Injustice League to play with. This development is exciting to the fan



Gameplay from "Injustice 2"

base, and many players have given due credit to the creators for expanding the Injustice League gameplay. However, it's hard not to notice that some characters received a lot more layout in terms of build and quality than others. Whereas there is nothing to be psyched about as it pertains to Wonder Woman's visual design, Blue Beetle has a sleeker design and stronger features. Even Superman has turned gears in facial and body structure since the first game. He looks older, which

is a good touch—if it is on purpose. That being said, it is hard to tell if the creators simply could not decide on an exact face or if they tried to combine actor Henry Cavill's facial structure with the first Injustice Superman's face.

The outcome is underwhelming, and while, yes, it is still a beta, Superman seems again to be lacking in moves. Supergirl—though comic book-wise she was always the strongest—holds more flexibility and usage when attacking than he

does. Most of the characters' facial structures are satisfactory. There is not much to say about it except that the expressions and skin quality are a little dull. Indeed, the graphics are nothing special, and the render time is efficient but a little choppy at moments. With the year being 2017, you would think that the creators would have stepped up their game; instead, much of the clear and sharp quality is sacrificed for the cut scenes during story moments or fatal moves.

We are talking about a beta, but typically, with regards to gameplay graphics, whatever you see in the official announcement is what you get when you buy the game. It is quite exciting that the female characters are recently being brought to the spotlight, but it is also quite exciting to see how many more characters and skill sets are going to be brought to the table. For those wondering, the mobile version has also been confirmed. "Injustice 2" will be available on Xbox One, PlayStation 4, Android, and iOS.

## Kelli Allen Reads Forthcoming Poetry Collection, 'Imagine Not Drowning'

DANIEL STRAWHUN  
A&E EDITOR

KELLI ALLEN, adjunct professor in the Pierre Laclède Honors College, held a reading from her forthcoming collection of poetry, "Imagine Not Drowning," on February 23 at Left Bank Books. "Imagine Not Drowning" is Allen's second collection of poetry, following the publication of "Otherwise, Soft White Ash" in 2012. "Imagine Not Drowning" is available for preorder from C&R press and will be released April 1.

In the new collection, Allen builds upon the familiar themes of sex, mythology, and the role of the unconscious in the creation of art. Her poems seem to fly effortlessly between material and metaphysical realms, often existing in both at once. After the reading, *The Current* was able to ask Allen a few questions about "Imagine Not Drowning" and her writing process in general:

**The Current (TC):** When did you start writing poetry?

**Allen:** From the beginning.

**TC:** You reference a lot of poets in your work, among them Rumi, Rilke, and Wallace Stevens. Are there any other writers who you feel have had a formative effect on your writing?

**Allen:** I have studied at the proverbial knee of Robert Bly, William Stafford, Lorca, and Galway Kinnell. These four poets have offered me the most in terms of deep image and attention to the natural world. That said, authentic experience happens from the body, first. I am concerned with physical and imagistic expression, both, when making poems. I do not attempt to escape my past and I do not try to retell the old stories and myths that shaped what I have become. Instead, use the old masters as voices set around some fire far older than I'll ever be.

**TC:** In "Otherwise, Soft White Ash" you write, "Speaking means falling into the pretty black bath,



The cover art for Kelli Allen's second poetry collection, "Imagine Not Drowning."

learning to accept the drowning." Is "Imagine Not Drowning" in some sense a continuation of your earlier work? What did you want to accomplish in this new collection?

**Allen:** Each poem is a continuation of something learned. It is essential to not fall back asleep when dragging one's own shadow bag behind. We are all close to drowning, nearly all of the time, and the beauty is in how we continually propel our bodies close to something we can breathe. The poems in both collections hope to remain aware of the presence above and below the well water.

**TC:** You are a successful poet in

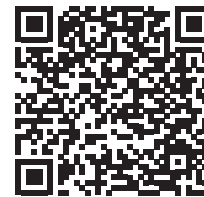
the 21st century, an exceedingly rare phenomenon. Do you think the role of a poet has changed in a culture that has largely quit reading poetry? What does it mean to be a poet today?

**Allen:** The role of the poet remains the same now as it has for our human history—to serve as philosopher, trickster, historian. Poets create and preserve artifacts. Their responsibility is to the Duende, to the rare flame that burns the shoulder and inner ear, but also to the tender belly parts that remind us how we are connected, endlessly, one to the other.

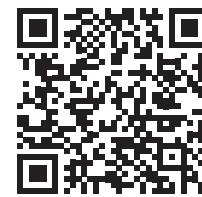
WANT TO READ THE CURRENT ON YOUR PHONE?

THE BUZZ

Download The Buzz: UMSL and keep up on the latest national, local, and campus news.



Android



iOS

Darlene Green has saved city taxpayers \$100 Million since taking office. She is making sure our tax dollars work as hard as we do.

Darlene Green has been fighting to protect the interests of St. Louis taxpayers against greedy developers and special interests.

Democrat **Darlene Green**  
St. Louis City Comptroller

Making A Real Difference In Real Lives

Political Courage  
Fiscal Responsibility  
Doing The Right Thing  
& The Experience To  
Get Things Done

VOTE Tuesday  
March 7

[www.greenforcomptroller.com](http://www.greenforcomptroller.com)

Paid for by Darlene Green for Comptroller, John Nicks Treasurer



# The Problem With the Regressive Left

CHRIS ZUVER  
STAFF WRITER

THE TERM “regressive left” has been floating around the media lately, though not yet on a large scale. A few journalists and media personalities like Bill Maher and Dave Rubin have directed their attention toward it, but for the most part, the major news outlets have avoided the topic.

When you think of the word “liberal,” you probably associate it with diversity, the Democratic party, and progressive ideals. However, the pursuit of progressive ideals has begun to backfire on many on the left. These days, a more appropriate association may be of the word “liberal” with another: oppression.

There is a kind of hubris that has overtaken many social movements in the Western world. Some of these movements, including liberalism, were once well-meaning attempts to advocate for minorities and discriminated members of society. However, they have recently become so militant in their actions that they have sought to silence anyone who thinks in any way contrary to

their agenda and ideology. In many instances, they have become bigoted and discriminatory, not judging people by character, but instead prioritizing them based on factors such as race, gender, religion, or sexual preference.

This is how progression has become regression.

You have probably heard of the term “Social Justice Warrior” (SJW) on the internet. This is a loose term that is applied to extremist advocates for a number of causes. The oppressive, authoritarian school of thought to which the term applies has invaded many social movements, including LGBTQIA rights, third wave feminism, and Black Lives Matter.

I may need to clarify here that I am not dismissing the aforementioned movements but rather criticizing the hypocrisy practiced by many of their representatives. Many, though not all, of these groups started with the good intention of working toward equality and acceptance.

What makes many of these invasive advocates a problem is their inability to tolerate the nuance of a person’s opinion. In their eyes, you

are either with them or you are an enemy. What was once meant as a call for equality has now become an attack on anyone outside of the “progressive” echo chamber.

This cheapens the platform for those who identify with liberal causes yet do not affiliate with this new authoritarian train of thought. The “regressive left” identity has been conflated with all who identify with being socially liberal.

**The left is eating itself and it does not look like it is planning on stopping any time soon.**

The left is eating itself and it does not look like it is planning on stopping any time soon.

You might recall from a few weeks ago that the recently-resigned Breitbart editor, Milo Yiannopoulos, was to appear at UC–Berkeley for a public talk. Yiannopoulos, a conservative provocateur, is an opponent to many who claim to hold liberal values. Campus administrators were forced to cancel the pundit’s public

speaking event in the wake of a massive protest that broke out before the event. The protest-turned-riot resulted in \$100,000 in damages to the campus and Yiannopoulos was not given a chance to speak.

You may also know of a recent fiasco between Youtube celebrity Felix Kjellberg (PewDiePie) and the media. Three journalists from the Wall Street Journal wrote a hit-piece on Kjellberg in an attempt to

damage his commercial reputation. In the article, the writers cherry-picked nine instances in which Kjellberg made jokes in his videos that they deemed to be in bad taste and, thus, immoral. The jokes revolved around Nazi references that Kjellberg was putting in his videos, simply to taunt the media, who had also recently deemed him a racist based on other jokes he had made. After the Wall Street Journal’s

piece was published, several stories from other media outlets followed, many of which made similar claims against Kjellberg.

What do these two events have in common? They are two of many instances in which the left has attempted to silence someone simply because they do not agree with their collective set of ideals.

I could go on and discuss how this type of liberal-bias mentality has corrupted media outlets but, since that seems pretty obvious by now, I will instead leave you with one last thought. The British philosopher and grandfather of liberalism John Stuart Mill once wrote: “Truth, in the great practical concerns of life, is so much a question of the reconciling and combining of opposites ... and it has to be made by the rough process of a struggle between combatants fighting under hostile banners.”

Mill was not talking about physical confrontation when he spoke of a struggle. He was talking about the openness of public debate, something that was once associated with the left and, more importantly, with justice.

**CHOOSE  
SUMMER @  
UMSL**

University of Missouri–St. Louis



*Get ahead and earn credit in convenient **four, eight and 12-week** formats.*

**It's not too early to start planning for summer.**

Summer registration is now open!

Keep working toward your degree this summer with courses from UMSL. Choose from hundreds of online and on-campus course offerings. Earn credit in as little as four weeks, with plenty of time left to enjoy your break.

For more information or to register today, visit us at **[umsl.edu/summer](http://umsl.edu/summer)**.

Or contact us at **[summer@umsl.edu](mailto:summer@umsl.edu)**.

University of Missouri–St. Louis  
Serious education. Serious value.<sup>SM</sup>



# Students Build Solutions at Hack-A-Thon

LEAH JONES  
FEATURES EDITOR

STUDENTS BUILD their careers and write their own stories at college. Most of the time, constructing their lives requires a process of trial and error. Mohamed Langi, senior, information systems, and president of the Information System Programming Club (ISPC), did not know what he wanted to do when he left high school and changed his major three times before settling on information systems. While Langi learned to write and construct his own way through college, he has now also learned how to write coding software to construct computer and web applications. Now he is helping to build the first ever co-gender UMSL Hack-A-Thon at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The 48-hour Hack-A-Thon will begin on March 3 and continue over the weekend to March 5. The event is free to all UMSL and Launch Code students and will be held in Express Scripts Hall and the Social Science and Business Administration Building (SSB). Langi said that these 48 hours will offer students opportunities beyond what the classroom has to offer. “In my opinion, you would gain more skills and experience than in a semester of college,” Langi said.

During a Hack-A-Thon, teams of four to six people collaborate to create web, phone, and desktop applications. Langi said that these teams usually include programmers, project managers, designers, and analysts. Most Hack-A-Thons aim to solve a real-world social problems. “Today, you usually have to use technology to solve problems,” said Dr. Dinesh Mirchandani, professor of information systems, and chair of the department.

Mirchandani, one of the co-organizers of the event, explained, “A Hack-A-Thon is like a maker’s space, so to speak, where groups come together and build technologies, solutions, and applications that help solve different problems. So for example, at UMSL, problems that we have include parking, or whether there are enough computers available at a lab during finals week. So if we had an app that could tell a student that there is a parking spot available in this garage or there is a computer available in this lab, that would solve a real problem for students. So the students who participate get to create something that will help UMSL.”

Tucked away in his office in Express Scripts Hall, Mirchandani sits surrounded by books, technology, and books about technology as construction workers complete their own building projects on the new Business Administration Building just outside of his window. Mirchandani speaks softly but exudes enthusiasm about what the students will build, as well as the opportunities that he hopes it will offer students.

“It’s [my hope that the event is] not only going to be a learning experience [for students], but that they’ll get to know each other, that they’ll learn team spirit, [and that] they’ll learn just how to get things done because you have deadlines to meet. So, I want them to have that experience, that even if they fail, they tried



Pictures of inside ESH in one of the rooms where the hack will take place.

and failed, rather than [having] not tried,” he said.

While students can try to many of the problems they face, such as lack of parking and computers, they can also try to solve other problems from around campus. “Because we know those problems, who better than us to try to solve them?” Mirchandani asked. However, Mirchandani said that they hoped the solutions can be generalized and spread beyond UMSL’s campus. Mirchandani said that they expect 60 to 70 participants at the Hack-A-Thon. At that size, he said that it will be a small enough event that students can bond and not be intimidated, but that it will be big enough for students to generate many ideas.

The Hack-A-Thon will also welcome LaunchCode students. LaunchCode operates in St. Louis, South Florida, Kansas City, Rhode Island, Seattle, and Portland, offering free information systems, technology, and software training to qualified applicants who may not have the funding to attend college. LaunchCode then connects these students with apprenticeships at one of their more than 300 partner companies, which range in size from Fortune 500 companies to small startups. Like the Hack-A-Thon, LaunchCode seeks to solve a real-world problem—social inequity—through technology. Dean Charles Hoffman of the College of Business Administration helped to create a partnership between UMSL and LaunchCode to provide LaunchCode students a space in which to hold their classes. Mirchandani said that he hopes the first UMSL Hack-A-Thon will be welcoming to these students and their ideas as well.

Some of these ideas will hopefully develop into startup companies and businesses. The winning team of the Hack-A-Thon will receive \$10,000 in startup funding as well as resources to further build their business and bring their app to a larger market, with UMSL as their first customer. UMSL Accelerate will help the team by providing them with a business incubation phase in which they can grow their

company by determining leadership structure and other important business features. The second place team will receive \$3,500, while the third place team and the team with the most popular product will receive \$1,000 and \$500 respectively.

Mirchandani explained that many of those competing will be information systems students who will have well-developed foundations in both technology and business. “The idea could actually become the basis of a company, so we also want them to think entrepreneurially—that the application that they make could potentially be used at other universities and other organizations. So, then it could be the basis for a startup company, and UMSL will help provide resources and mentorship to guide the teams that have the best applications to form companies. They [will] need some guidance to create a company.”

UMSL will help students fund their project after the Hack-A-Thon, but they will also provide support during the Hack-A-Thon through mentors and a helpdesk, from whom students will be able to elicit help and support. The Hack-A-Thon will also feature a training session during the week leading up to the event and on the first day of the event. Mirchandani explained that these training sessions are meant to engage students and help them emerge from the event knowing a little bit more than they did when they started the event. “At the end of the day, it is about having a block of time where you can focus on learning and observing how other people are working, and you become more aware of the skills and the tools and the possibilities. So it could, for somebody who is a newcomer, be that spark that fires them to come out of this and want to keep learning and keep participating in future events and keep building on their skills.”

While UMSL has held a 24-hour Women’s Hack-A-Thon since 2014, the co-gender 48-hour Hack-A-Thon was inspired by Langi and other students’ recent participation in the GlobalHack in St. Louis. One

thousand participants competed and sought to solve homelessness in St. Louis in the GlobalHack on October 21–23, 2016 in the Chaifetz Arena for a \$1 million prize.

Langi said that Brian Lawton, a part-time lecturer in the business information technology department, encouraged him to participate in the GlobalHack, despite the fact that he felt intimidated by the range of high school students, college students, and professionals who attended the event. Though his team did not place, Langi said, “After Global Hack I felt more comfortable in my programming, working in a rapid, fast-paced environment and also working as a part of team to achieve our goal. I also learned where I need improvement.”

While the app that the team built did not win any prizes, the connections that Langi built at the GlobalHack proved to be invaluable. At the event, he met UMSL alumnus Stuart Ashby. “A couple months after Global Hack I was approached by Stuart Ashby [asking] if I would like to help organize a Hack-A-Thon here at UMSL, and I said ‘YEA!’ I believe Hack-a-thon is a win-win situation for everyone, from the participants to UMSL,” Langi explained.

“The students came back and they said that they learned so much [during] that intense experience, that you learn more in that than you would in a course, so this is something that we now have the capacity to do,” Mirchandani explained. So the group built their own Hack-A-Thon at UMSL.

“They [Langi and the organizing group] become leaders in their own right,” Mirchandani said. “I just want to see them succeed and develop their leadership, help the campus, and make and inspire other students.”

UMSL’s Hack-A-Thon has a crowdfunding page where people can make donations at <https://crowdfund.ums.edu/>.

To register for the UMSL Hack-A-Thon, visit <https://umslhack.devpost.com/>.

## Trayvon Martin’s Mother Speaks At UMSL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1  
ing hoodies on social media sites, in order to express solidarity. She stated that in a way, the pictures showed that the fact that her son was wearing a hoodie at the time of the shooting, did not justify the shooting because any young person can wear a hoodie, and many do. “It’s not about the hoodie,” she said. “It’s about the ugliness that’s going on in this country.”

As Martin had been suspended from school during the week of his death, Fulton addressed those who attempt to justify the shooting of her son with this information. “Of course he needed to be in school. Of course he needed to be getting his education. Of course those things. But a lot of times, the system just is not fair.” She turned once again to social media, stating that mobile devices provide a way for minorities to protect themselves. “A lot of people do not experience racism on a daily basis, and so they don’t understand, and for a long time they thought that African Americans and Latinos were just complaining. [...] They can’t get a good education. They can’t get jobs. They can’t get housing. What are they complaining about? Well, now [...] we can show you what we’re complaining about,” Fulton said.

Fulton also expressed the need for people to educate themselves on the issues and events that do not make it to the public’s view. She stated that many victims, such as Emmett Till and Eric Garner, have become icons, but there are many other needless deaths that go largely unnoticed. Social media, Fulton suggested, is an excellent way to raise awareness of senseless violence and to show support for the victims’ families. She also implored the audience to vote as frequently as they can; she reminded the audience that the presidential election is not the only important time to vote. “You need to know what’s on the ballot,” she said. “Find out who’s running for office, what their agenda is [and] what their concerns are.”

Fulton said, “The worst day of my life was Trayvon’s home-going service, when I had to sit in the front of my church and see my seventeen year old son ... laying in the casket with all white on, as if he was going to a prom. And he had this smirk on his face as if he was trying to tell me that he was going to be okay. But as a mother, the image still bothers me today, and it’s something that compels me to continue to speak out for my son, to continue to be the voice for the voiceless.”





# March 7 Primary: Candidates for St. Louis City Mayor and Comptroller



Mayoral candidates (from left to right): Antonio French, Lewis Reed, Tishaura Jones, Lyda Krewson, Jeffrey Boyd, Jimmie Matthews, Bill Haas, and Andrew Jones. Not pictured: Jim Osher, Andy Karandzieff, Robb Cunningham, and Jonathan McFarland.

**KAT RIDDLER**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**P**LEASE REMEMBER to mark your calendars for the March 7 Municipal Primary Election if you live in the City of St. Louis. Topping the ballot will be the selection of mayoral candidates to succeed Mayor Slay. Also on the ballot will be the comptroller, Proposition S, and numerous contested primaries for aldermen.

The most notable race in Tuesday's primary election is the race for mayor. The current mayor, Francis Slay, was elected in 2001 and was the first St. Louis mayor to be elected four consecutive terms. On April 8 he announced he would not be seeking another term in office. Thus, numerous candidates began applying for the position.

Twelve candidates filed to replace the Democratic mayor. There are seven Democrats running: Antonio French, Lewis Reed, Jeffrey Boyd, Tishaura Jones, Lyda Krewson, Bill Haas, and Jimmie Matthews. There are three Republicans running: Andy Karandzieff, Jim Osher, and Andrew Jones. The Libertarian Party candidate is Robb Cunningham, and the Green Party candidate is Jonathan McFarland.

## Democratic Candidates

**Antonio French**, alderman from Ward 21, received national attention for his social media presence during the fall of 2014 in Ferguson. In 2012, French founded the North Campus. This initiative was modeled after the New York City's Harlem Children's Zone and asks schools to provide mentoring and after-school tutoring to low-income children. Last October, former Governor Jay Nixon gave North Campus a \$500,000 federal grant to expand math and science tutoring services. The money came with stipulations that the Missouri Department of Social Services and the University of Missouri-St. Louis monitor the grant. This partnership gave UMSL students a place to volunteer their time and gain hands-on experience. French's main focus in his campaign is the economic disparity in St. Louis, commonly referred to as the Delmar Divide.

The French campaign told *The Current* why he is the best choice for mayor. "We believe the St. Louis Post-Dispatch said it best, 'The March 7 mayoral primaries offer St. Louisans a basic choice: Maintain an unacceptable status quo or take a chance on a substantially new direction. Democratic voters' best option to put our city on a better course is to choose 21st Ward Alderman Antonio French. ... French, 39, stands

out by far among the top tier of candidates for the energy and leadership qualities St. Louisans should demand in their next mayor.'"

**Lewis Reed** is the Board of Alderman's current president and was the first African American elected to that position in 2007. Reed passed legislation to create St. Louis' first dog park in St. Louis. Prior to being president, Reed served as Alderman for the 6th Ward for eight years and was the first African American alderman for that ward elected in 1999. Reed ran unsuccessfully for mayor in 2013 against Slay. Reed is promising to reduce the crime rate in the city by 50 percent within the first two years in office and touts his experience as a member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment (E&A) as President of the Board of Aldermen. The Board of E&A makes major policy and budgeting decisions and is comprised of the mayor, board president, and comptroller.

**Jeffrey L. Boyd** is the alderman for Ward 22. He is a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Army and retired as a Master Sergeant in 2005. Representing a ward that experiences a high rate of crime, he believes the focus should be on police training and employing de-escalation tactics, as well as rebuilding neighborhoods. He says that if jobs and opportunity are brought into an area that crime rates should go down.

Boyd lost a young nephew, Rashad Farmer, to gun violence in the city, and a video that went viral of the alderman deploring gun violence was seen as a powerful plea to end such senseless murders. The alderman has been arrested himself for entering the scene where a friend had been gunned down and once for filming the police. While Boyd says he supports the police, he also believes his own experiences demonstrate that complaints mostly by African American males of being harassed are justified and believes more training is needed. He has also cited the disparity in police tactics and presence, noting that downtown and in the central corridor, there are bicycle patrols so the police can connect more with the neighborhood residents, but not in the wards experiencing greater violence.

**Tishaura Jones** is a former state representative for District 63, former 8th Ward Democratic committeewoman, and St. Louis City treasurer currently serving her second term. She first ran for an office in 2002, and before that she had a career as an administrator at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's

Hospital. Jones' father, former city comptroller Virvus Jones, ultimately plead guilty to tax evasion and served prison time. While he works on her campaign as a staff member, she defends this decision that she is her own person and should not be in his shadow. Jones is in favor of a citywide plan to establish racial equity, tax incentives on the city's poorest neighborhoods, and a more data-driven crime strategy to keep nonviolent offenders out of jail through mental health and substance abuse services. Jones has a large following on social media and recently accepted an invitation to meet with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch editorial board, but skipped the meeting and sent a letter criticizing the board for being out of touch.

**Lyda Krewson** has been the alderwoman for Ward 28 since 1997. Krewson is a CPA and the Chief Financial Officer of Peckham Guyton Albers & Viets, Inc. As of the last spending reports available prior to deadline, Krewson has raised \$576,000 in campaign cash. That is more than twice the amount of her closest competitor. Krewson's number one focus as mayor would be public safety. Her plan calls for \$20 million in new spending to hire 200 more officers and give current officers a pay raise. Krewson's first husband was killed during a carjacking in front of their home in 1995. She and their young children were in the car at the time. It is one of the motivating factors that led her to run for public office, and two years later she was elected to the Board of Aldermen.

Krewson told *The Current* why she would be the best candidate. Krewson said, "I'm running for mayor because I love St. Louis. I've been the 28th ward alderman for almost 20 years, and in that time I have brought new business and development to my ward, always balancing the interests of business owners and residents. Many thanks to UMSL for my accounting degree—it enabled me to become a CPA and the CFO of an international architecture and design firm based downtown. That mix of experience is important for the chief executive of a city with a billion dollar budget."

Krewson continued, "For three decades I've led some of St. Louis' most important fights. I've battled drug companies, tobacco companies and the NRA on behalf of St. Louisans. I think the next mayor should be capable and tough enough to lead the city's biggest issues—job one is neighborhood safety. I'll address that through crime prevention

measures such as more access to jobs, expanded youth and recreation activities, and alternatives to prosecution and incarceration ... There's no sense in having this job if you're not going to take on the toughest issues. I will do that as mayor. I will make our neighborhoods safer, attract jobs and create opportunities for every single one of us."

**Bill Haas** has been a member of the St. Louis Elected Board of Education for four terms and is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. Haas has, as he describes, a 32-year desire to be in politics. In 1977 Haas got his first taste of politics when he worked for former Cleveland Mayor Dennis Kucinich. Haas ran for school board and the city council in Cleveland before he moved to St. Louis in 1992 and won a \$250,000 lottery. He used most of the money to run for circuit attorney, but has also run for the Missouri House four times, Congress four times, mayor four times, lieutenant governor, and city alderman. He lost all those races. Haas is the self-proclaimed "education candidate," hoping to work on early childhood reading programs and job-readiness initiatives for eighth-graders.

**Jimmie Matthews** may sound familiar to voters as he ran against Slay four years prior and for other political offices. He was elected alderman in 1985, but in 1988, Matthews became the first alderman to be successfully recalled by the voters. He has been caught up in several controversies, one of which included him allegedly posing as a police officer, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. One of his mayoral goals is unconventional, as he wants slavery reparations for African American residents. He also wants to create a program to give city-owned vacant buildings in poor neighborhoods to local residents, along with grants to renovate them.

## Republican Candidates

St. Louis hasn't had a Republican mayor since Aloys P. Kaufmann left in 1949, which indicates it will be a very tough race to win after the primary.

**Andy Karandzieff** is the co-owner of the St. Louis institution Crown Candy Kitchen. Karandzieff filed to run for mayor because he wanted "free publicity" for his business.

**Jim Osher** is a utility executive and wants the job of the mayor to have more businesslike negotiations for the city. He opposes offering tax incentives to businesses at the beginning of negotiations and believes that tax incentives should be last resort moves.

**Andrew Jones** owned the old Buster Brown Blue Ribbon shoe factory on Jefferson Avenue before it was taken by the city via eminent domain for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. Currently, Jones is businessman in the building-materials industry. Jones believes that St. Louis should strengthen its diversity, through ways such as solving issues surrounding the Delmar Divide.

The Libertarian Party candidate is **Robb Cunningham**, and the Green Party candidate is **Jonathan McFarland**. They are running unopposed on the primary ballot.

## Comptroller

**Darlene Green** has served as the first African American woman comptroller for 21 years. As comptroller she is in charge of a \$1 billion budget for the City of St. Louis. Green worked as budget director for the city for two years and finance director for the 22nd Judicial Circuit Court for eight years. St. Louis recorded nine consecutive years of multi-million dollar budget surpluses and seven credit rating upgrades since she has been a budget director and comptroller. In 2008 she helped the city gain an A+ credit rating for the first time in 35 years. Last year Green saved taxpayers \$10 million and since taking office, has saved taxpayers \$100 million through re-financing debt.

Green told *The Current* why she would be the best candidate for the job. Green said, "This is a critical time for the city when we must make every dollar do more and go further than ever before. I have worked to help the city achieve and maintain an A+ credit rating with Standard and Poors. That stability is one of the things that makes St. Louis an attractive place for new business and growth. I have 21 years of strong fiscal management experience as Comptroller with integrity, accountability, and transparency."

**Alexandra Johnson** is an attorney in St. Louis. She is married and a mother of two. Johnson has worked with the St. Louis Tax Assistance Program, Legal Advocates for Eastern Missouri, and the Saint Louis – San Luis Potosí Friendship Committee. Johnson was Parent Co-Chair of the Diversity Committee and is a member of the Families Committed to Diversity group in her children's schools.

The unopposed Green Party candidate is **Jerome Bauer**.

Constituents can go to the St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners website to look at a sample ballot for their party.